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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: : ZMUDA, et al.
Serial No. : 09/938,131
Filed : August 23, 2001
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 1641
For : ORAL FLUID RAPID ASSAY
FOR HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV)
ANTIBODIES USING NON-
ANTIBODY LABELING OF IGA
MOLECULES RECOGNIZING
HCV PEPTIDE EPITOPES
Attorney Docket No. : LIO 2 0081

Cleveland, Ohio 44114
January 23, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicants submit the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicants are aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, these patents require no further explanation (or no translation is available).

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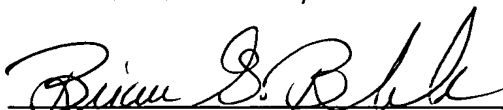
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Under Rule 97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and accordingly no fee is necessary.

It is respectfully requested that the above-identified art be considered and officially cited in the examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP


Richard J. Minnich (Reg No. 24,175)
Brian G. Bembenick (Reg. No. 41,463)
1100 Superior Avenue
Seventh Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2518
216/861-5582

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT in connection with Application Serial No. 09/938,131 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 23, 2002.


CAROLINE A. SCHWETER

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